

June 11, 2025

Dear Joelle, Gad, Johanna, and Deborah,

Shalom from your partners at Amutat Kaima and Bein Hatlamim Farm. Every Sunday and Wednesday, something magical happens. With the help and encouragement of the Matanel Foundation, our new initiative, "Anchored in the Earth," has emerged as a recognizable and meaningful resource for IDF reservists struggling with PTSD symptoms and other forms of mental distress.

Nearly a year ago, you listened as we outlined the challenge, believing that we could apply the Kaima therapeutic farming model, used so successfully with distressed youth and young adults, to reach out to this emerging population in need – Israel's brave and committed soldiers now returning from the front.

We will remind you that we are in a two-year pilot, each comprised of three cohorts:

• Cohort 1 (Winter): 14 participants

• Cohort 2 (Fall): 17 participants

• Cohort 3 (Summer): 17 participants

While we carefully crafted a 10-week program, the option is given for participants to continue if they wish. Three people from Cohort 1 stayed with us as members of Cohort 2 and three additional people from Cohort 2 continued as members of Cohort 3. For all, Anchored in the Earth has demonstrated itself to be a safe space where people can begin to heal, gain new tools to reenter society, and, notably, help others—a hugely important avenue to recommit to life, and even gain new perspectives from mentees. This is how leadership emerges and how community starts and maintains itself.

After the summer program, we will invest in evaluating and raising funds for the coming year. It has become obvious to all involved that the undertaking must continue into the longer term...it is the least we owe to those who have risked so much to protect us. While society is waking up to the value of therapeutic farming, the Matanel/Kaima system, which has been evolving for more than a decade, is again setting the standard for others.

As requested, below is a list of participants across all three cohorts as well as a photo of the recognition plaque. We hope this will be sufficient to trigger the second and final payment of this grant. Our final report on the 2024/25 grant will follow in late August/early September.

Wishing you a good and safe summer,

Year One (2024/25) Anchored in the Earth Cohorts 1-3

COHORT 3: Summer '25		COHORT 2: Spring '25		COHORT 1: Winter '24	
מחזור קיץ		מחזור אביב		מחזור חורף	
Hezi Shochat	1	Aharon Liyush	1	Roee Sofer	1
Livna Agam	2	Shaked Amgar	2	Elimelech Vitro	2
Guy Guri	3	Asaf Goldberg	3	Shahar Shirkolker	3
Aviad Kadas	4	Yochai Chait	4	Yoni Aviv	4
Shaked Harari	5	Magen Psagot	5	Moshe Levi	5
Ashi Rozenfeld	6	Yehonatan Baratz	6	Ron Magal	6
Elia Talmore	7	Yaniv Almagor	7	Nir Meirovitz	7
Chai Raz Cohen	8	Gilad Amir	8	Daniel Amar	8
Shuli Meshulami	9	Shmulik Reich	9	Nachum Neuman	9
Oren Distel	10	Ilya Feingold	10	Dor Akron	10
Roee Buchnik	11	Omri Chai Sharabi	11	Eran Ganon	11
Dor Saidof	12	Elin Zaslavsky	12	Nadav Sinkarona	12
Ohad Levi	13	Roee Kershner	13	Amidror Keidar	13
Daniel Chacham	14	Ido Rozenberg	14	Alon Garzon	14
Nachum Neuman *	15	Eran Ganon *	15		
Yochai Chait *	16	Amidror Keidar *	16		
Aharon Liyush *	17	Nir Meirovitz *	17		

*Retuning as mentor



Matanel recognition plaque and program professionals

The day begins...



The day ends...



Thank you, Matanel Foundation